

Public Ledger.

Nineteenth Congress—First Session.
IN SENATE.

APRIL 19.—Mr. Hendricks, from the select committee on Roads and Canals, made the following report:

The Committee on Roads and Canals to whom were referred several resolutions of the Senate on the subject of providing for the surveys of canal routes in the state of Indiana and of various routes, in the state of Maine Report:

That the subjects referred to them have received their attentive consideration, and they cannot doubt the importance of the objects therein designated; that the proposition to unite by canal communication, the southern bend of Lake Michigan with the Wabash, the White rivers, and the Ohio river, is one which the geography of the country renders very plausible, and one which the committee believes may be readily accomplished.

The canal to unite the navigable waters of the Wabash with those of the Miami of Lake Erie, is, also, a work which is believed to be easy of execution; it is one to which they have made to the Senate a special report, accompanied by a bill, which is, at this time, among the orders of the day and which, it is hoped, will meet with the favorable reception of the Senate.

That which proposes a survey, to ascertain the practicability of uniting, by a canal, the waters of the Wabash and the Miami of the Lake with the river Ohio, through the valley of the White Water, has attracted much attention in the region of country through which it is expected to pass; and a company has been incorporated by the State of Indiana, having for its object the construction of this canal. The Committee believe they cannot be mistaken in assuring the Senate of the importance, in a national Point of view, of the canal routes before alluded to, and of which surveys are desired.

The Committee are also of opinion, that the improvement, by roads and canals, of the State of Maine, is an object of much importance, in a military point of view and the more so as that State presents a long line of exposed frontier and is perhaps the most vulnerable point of the Union. The roads contemplated from the Penobscot River to that of St. John's, and from Kennebec River to some point on the Canada line, in a direction to Quebec, cannot fail to be justly considered as works of improvement, essentially necessary to that State. One of these routes is intimately associated with our history of the Revolutionary war; with our recollections of that memorable campaign against Quebec, which begun and progressed in sufferings indelible, and which terminated with our best prospects in Canada.

A survey of the Kennebec river, with a view of improving its navigation—a survey to ascertain the practicability of uniting by a canal, the Merrymeeting with Casco Bay, and a survey, also, of the Highlands, between the navigable waters of the Androscoggin and the Connecticut Rivers, are among the subjects referred to the consideration of the Committee.

The Committee have thought proper thus to enumerate the objects of the various resolutions, by which they are instructed to inquire and report to the Senate, and they do not hesitate to say, that the objects above alluded to, are, in their opinion, within the certain and defined policy of this government, as delineated in the "Act to procure the necessary surveys plans, and estimates, upon the subject of Roads and Canals, approved April 30th, 1824.

The Committee are well advised of the delicate services which they are called to perform; and distracting nature of the Constitutional questions, which their duty frequently requires them to present; and it has been their constant aim to present as few of those questions as possible.

The Committee further remark, that since the passage of the Resolutions, which form the basis of this report, an appropriation of fifty thousand dollars has been made, and put at the disposal of the Secretary of War, under the aforesaid act for such like purposes. This appropriation is in addition to the twenty thousand for the survey of the Florida Canal; is much more liberal than the former appropriation and creates means for more enlarged operations than heretofore. Under all the circumstances of the case the Committee, though impressed with the importance of the various subjects referred to their consideration, do not report a bill, but hope that they will have faithfully discharged their duty, by presenting this view to the Senate, and by availing themselves of the present occasion, to refer the whole subject to the favorable attention of the Secretary of

War. They request the adoption of the following resolution:

Resolved, That the Committee be discharged from the further consideration of the subjects.

GRAND RIVER OF LAKE MICHIGAN.—Mr. Lyon has returned from a month's survey of lands on the Grand River of Lake Michigan. In this time he has completed the running the lines of forty-four townships 3, 4, 5 and 6, north of the base line, and ranges 1 to 11 west. The Grand River, with the exception of a small distance where it takes a bend and bears for a few miles to the north of town 6, runs through the whole survey from east to west. This course of the stream is different, running further north than had been supposed. At the distance of 50 or 55 miles from the lake, by the course of the river, and 30 miles in a direct line, are rapids, where the descent is about 20 feet in little more than a mile. Here is a Missionary establishment lately commenced. Below the rapids the river is three hundred yards wide; above, it is navigable to the east of the principal meridian, a distance of between 150 and 200 miles from the lake. The Portage branch of Grand River interlocks with the Lower Huron. The lands surveyed by Mr. Lyon, are generally timbered, as distinguished from openings. The principal growth is beech, maple, ash, elm, lynn, and basswood, with some white pine. There is nothing very interesting in the mineralogy of the country. Some high banks of sandstone appear near the head branches of the river. The rapid runs over a bed of limestone, and gypsum is found in the neighborhood. There is also a salt spring near the rapid, where the Indians make salt. Mr. Lyon has had an unfavorable season for making his survey. Indians were uniformly civil and hospitable, which the surveyors attribute principally to the friendly influence of Mr. Robinson, who has a trading house at the forks of Grand River.—*Michigan Herald*.

VILLAGE OF MONROE.—It would seem from an account in the Michigan Sentinel, that this new and pleasantly situated village is in a state of rapid improvement. It has increased its population more than one third in less than a year, including in the number 1 printer, 1 capitalist, 1 physician, 1 tailor, 2 blacksmiths, 4 house carpenters, 1 cooper, 1 carriage and sleigh maker, 1 fanning-mill maker, and a considerable number of laborers. A tinman, a hatter, and a gold and silversmith are still wanted. A number of new buildings have been erected, former ones enlarged, and others are now going up. The village also contains a grist-mill, with the run of stones, and a saw-mill, both in constant employment. The River Basin at this village affords water privileges which are not exceeded in many other places, and admits of the multiplication of mills to a great extent.—*Michigan Herald*.

The Lord Chief Justice of the Court of Common Pleas in England, has recently decided that in a sale of property at vendue, the seller could not legally employ a person to bid for him, unless it were made known in the conditions of sale. The fact not being stated in the conditions of such a measure would be a gross fraud. This is a decision of no small importance; and is worthy of being known here, as well as Great Britain. We believe such sales are frequently made; and the principle which would govern the English courts, would very probably be adopted by ours, if the question were brought before them.

DOMESTIC LIFE.—The earl of Orery well observes, that when ever we step out of domestic life, in search of felicity, we come back disappointed, tired, and chagrined. One day passed under our own roof, with our friends and our family, is worth a thousand in another place.

NEWSPAPERS.—The lord chief justice in England lately observed from the bench, "If it be said that a newspaper has a right to publish what it pleases respecting an individual, it certainly ought to be prepared, whenever called upon, to substantiate the truth of that publication presumes, and ought to imply, that it is so prepared to furnish satisfactory testimony in support of whatever statements it advances."

In the course of the discussion, in the Senate, on the bill to authorize a subscription of stock in the Louisville and Portland Canal Company, the following statement was submitted:

The charter is perpetual, and guarantees twelve and a half per cent. dividend.

The whole work has been put under contract, and taken by two companies from New York, in whom are united practical experience and efficient means. The contract stipulates the canal shall be completed

ed on or before November, 1827, and it was commenced last month, with adequate force. No obstacle or difficulty has presented itself either actually or imaginary, in the undertaking. The successful accomplishment of the work is certain.

The canal is constructed to pass the largest steam boats, having fifty feet in a clear between the gates. Width of canal at top, 190 feet, will have four feet water at the lowest stages of the river. It is less than two miles in extent. The fall of the river is twenty-seven feet, which will be overcome by three combined lift locks. The land on which the canal is located has been purchased and paid for. With the aid this bill is calculated to give the certainty of the completion of the work is beyond a doubt.

The annual loss sustained by the commerce of the west, occasioned by the obstruction to navigation, presented by the falls of the Ohio, at Louisville, and which obstruction this completely removes, is calculated by men of undoubted experience, to be upwards of half a million of dollars annually.

Twelve states are materially interested—Louisiana, Mississippi, Alabama, Tennessee, Missouri, Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky, Ohio, Virginia, Pennsylvania, New-York, and Territory of Arkansas.

The greater part of the first instalment, called for on the 15th March last, has been paid in. The second instalment is called on the 20th June, of 10 per cent. Stock 6000 shares, of \$100 each, \$600,000.

[The bill authorizes the purchase of 1000 shares of stock, provided they can be procured for a sum not exceeding 100,000 dollars.]

A singular disruption took place a short time since, in the town of Calsis, Vt. by which a large portion of earth was thrown up from a hill with great violence, by which several large trees were uprooted, and even the rock which formed the base of the hill, rent asunder. The explosion was heard at a great distance. The cause of this convulsion has not been explained, & seems to puzzle the people in the vicinity not a little.—*New-York American*.

It has been lately decided in the English Court of King's Bench, that an indorsement in pencil marks is valid and good, and it was remarked by the Lord Chief Justice that the decision was not likely to do injury, as the imperfection of this method was so great, that persons would doubtless make indorsements in ink whenever it could be procured.—*N. Y. A.*

A party of the chiefs of the Seminole Indians have arrived at Charleston, on their way to this city. It is remarked that they are extremely well dressed, and entirely in the costume of their nation.

National Journal.

A destructive tornado was experienced near Montgomery, Alabama, on the 29th ult. which did considerable damage to the plantations between that place and the Creek line.

We learn, says the Nat. Intelligencer, that there was taken at one haul, at Mr. Young's landing, on the Potomac, on the 19th ult. as nearly as ascertained, three hundred thousand Herrings, said to be the greatest known in the neighborhood, for many years.

Extract of a letter from Washington, April 20.

"Randolph delivered yesterday the greatest speech of his life, and, as he said, the last for this session. The like of it was never seen, heard, nor felt, here before. He spoke for six complete hours, from one to seven. For six hours he filled his phials of bitterness—filled them to overflowing—and emptied them on heads, high and low. For six hours he trod the wine-press of indignant wrath; for six hours the Senate and a brilliant audience were fixed as the marble columns which supported the dome of the chamber. The stenographer was busy, but in vain! It is not for paper to tell that speech."—*Rich. En.*

PROPHECIES.—Letters from Bucharest say that the Prophecies of Argothangelos, the first publication of which was three centuries ago, and which were reprinted at Bucharest in 1812, by order of Russia, announced that Constantinople will be taken in 1827. The death of all the Emperors, down to Alexander, is exactly predicted in the most positive manner by this prophet, as well as the expedition of the French to Moscow.—*United States Gazette*.

[The truth or falsehood of the prophecy respecting Constantinople will soon be known.]

A NEW THING UNDER THE SUN.—A meeting house has been sold in the state of New York at the suit of a clergyman, for the payment of his salary.

FOREIGN AFFAIRS.

Selected from Eastern Papers.

GREAT BRITAIN.—Mr. Foulque, going a case at the bar of the House of Lords, having spoken freely of a witness, received a letter from the witness' son, telling him a liar and a scoundrel. The chancellor called the attention of the House to the subject, on the 23d, and moved that the writer be taken into custody for breach of privilege. The motion was adopted.

A destructive fire occurred in Liverpool on the morning of the 20th of March.

The condition of the slave population of the colonies was discussed in the House of Commons, on the 1st of March. It appears, from the statement of Mr. Manning, that in none of the colonies, independent legislatures, have all the measures recommended by the executive government, under the sanction of Parliament, been adopted; that, in fact, except in Saint Vincent and Dominica, the alleviation of the condition of the slaves cannot be regarded as a real, and that, in Jamaica, notwithstanding the slave population of the colonies, nothing at all has been done.

FRANCE.—The king of France has decreed that if any captain of a French vessel shall be guilty of transporting persons, or a view of selling them as slaves in Egypt, Barbara, he shall forever afterwards be prevented from acting as commandant in any place whatsoever.

Notwithstanding the many professions made by the French government, in favor of the Greeks, it is stated as coming from an authentic source, that a Frenchman who is said to be clothed with full powers from the Vice-roy of Egypt, is constantly recruiting for the pacha, and that a large number of French officers are assembled at Marseille ready to embark for Alexandria.

The discussions in the council are rather tumultuous, and parties are violent. It was proposed to call upon the clergy for resources; but the archbishop of Toledo said "the gentry in coats of colors" could bear it much better—marching the soldiers.—Lieut. gen. Castanos inquired where the clergy would be with them? The Treasury has demanded its funds to be paid in, and the wider pensions are suspended.

The papers seized upon Bazan, and the persons of his band, contain all the details of the extravagant plan formed by the revolutionists. In case of success, the government was to be confided to a sort of advisory or directory, composed of Renc Alpuente, and other violent Jacobins. A supreme revolutionary tribunal was to be erected in the capital, and subaltern tribunals in the provinces, to do justice on the enemies of liberty.

Several of the revolutionists of the band of Bazan have not yet been shot. They have made important disclosures, and implicated, in their plot, the names of Bazan and of a person of consequence.

RUSSIA.—Accounts from St. Petersburg state that, under the chapel where the remains of Alexander was to be deposited, some wine casks were found filled with gunpowder, which caused a great fermentation, and the troops had to be called out to procure quietness.

The procession of the late emperor Alexander has arrived at Moscow. The coronation of the Emperor Nicholas is postponed to September or October. The cause of this delay is said to be an apprehension of some conspiracy being renewed at the period of the fetes which will accompany that ceremony. More than 2000 conspirators are known; that is to say, there are 20,000 noble Russian families compromised; and as they all have connections, it may be said, that nearly all the nobility of this vast empire lie under suspicion. It is asserted that already the number of persons under arrest exceeds 12,000. Several of the principal conspirators died suddenly in prison.

The emperor has appointed the grand duke, Constantine, to be the commander-in-chief of the Cossack Hussars of the imperial guards.

POLAND.—The Stanislaus Stalzie Palan minister of state died at Warsaw, on the 20th of January. He has left the whole of his fortune, amounting to £300,000, to public institutions.

CUBA.—Two young men, natives of Principe, in the island of Cuba, who had just arrived from the republic of Colombia, were condemned to death and hung on Principe on the 16th ult. for attempting to revolutionize the country.

NEW-YORK.—A great fire occurred in New-York on the morning of the 28th ult. It originated in what are termed the change buildings, and in a few hours a whole immense structure was laid in ruins. The loss sustained is estimated at not less than \$200,000; on which there is an assurance of \$132,000.—*Niles*.